



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY ARMOR CENTER AND FORT KNOX  
FORT KNOX, KENTUCKY 40121-5000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

ATZK-JAA (600)

20 September 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR

Commanders, All Units Reporting Directly to This Headquarters  
Directors and Chiefs, Staff Offices/Departments, This Headquarters

SUBJECT: Thunderbolt Six Policy Memo No. 38-11 - Relief for Cause

1. References:

- a. AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, 15 July 1999.
- b. AR 623-105, Officer Evaluation Reporting System, 1 October 1997.
- c. AR 623-205, Enlisted Evaluation Reporting System, 31 March 1992.

2. When soldiers display negative behavior, commanders should try to alter the behavior using positive leadership methods such as counseling. Stronger methods such as written reprimands may be necessary. When these methods fail, commanders may consider relief for cause.

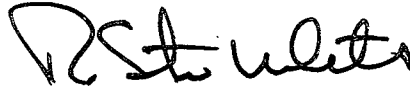
3. Relief for cause is extremely serious. Commanders considering relief action will strictly adhere to the policies set forth in this memo and the references cited above.

4. An officer in a brigade or battalion/squadron command position will not be relieved for cause until the Commander, US Army Armor Center and Fort Knox, first approves the relief in writing. An officer in a company/troop command position will not be relieved for cause until the Deputy Commander, US Army Armor Center and Fort Knox, first approves the relief in writing. The officer may be suspended from assigned duties pending the decision on whether or not to relieve for cause. All such actions will be coordinated with the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

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5. The decision to relieve a Command Sergeant Major rests with the USAARMC and Fort Knox Commander. Recommendations for relief will be reviewed by the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate and the USAARMC Command Sergeant Major.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Steven Whitcomb".

R. STEVEN WHITCOMB

Major General, USA

Commanding

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